About the Fund:
The Sam McLaughlin Scholarship for the Arts was established by the family of the late William “Sam” McLaughlin III. This scholarship is to honor Sam’s lifelong commitment to and passion for the arts. The scholarship will provide one $1,000 scholarship to graduates of Fairmont Senior High School, who are pursuing post-secondary education in fine arts, and display a financial need.

About the Honoree:
William “Sam” McLaughlin (1962-2018) was born April 7, 1962 in Parkersburg, West Virginia, but soon relocated to Fairmont, West Virginia. Sam graduated from Fairmont Senior High School in 1980 and went on to attend Shepherd University, where he would receive a bachelors degree in graphic design. After completing his post-secondary education, Sam returned to the Fairmont area where he lived until his passing.

Sam cared deeply for his family, his friends, his dogs, and of course the arts. He enjoyed fishing, camping, and tending to his garden. Sam was also a very talented painter, and had quite an affinity for works of art. He painted beautiful portraits of both people and animals. Above all else, Sam enjoyed spending time with his family, whom he loved very much.

Eligibility Guidelines:
Applicants must be the recipient of a diploma from Fairmont Senior High School. In addition, applicants must be pursuing post-secondary education in fine arts and display a financial need. Scholarship recipients are eligible to reapply for renewal for a period of four years if the recipient continues to meet the eligibility requirements and is in good standing at the educational institution the student is attending. The funds are to be designated for tuition at an institution of higher learning, either a college/university or a technical school.

How Can I Donate?
All donations to the Sam McLaughlin Scholarship for the Arts are invested to increase their value, with net income from these investments paid out annually to meet the requirements and donor objectives of the fund. While the net income is dispersed, the original endowment and any subsequent contributions remain intact and continue to grow. Individuals, organizations and businesses are encouraged to contribute any amount to one or more of the endowments managed by YCF.

To make a donation, or for more information, contact Your Community Foundation of North Central West Virginia, Inc. (YCF) P.O. Box 409, Morgantown, WV 26507. Call us at (304) 296-3433 or visit our web site at www.ycfwv.org.